

2026

OUR MANIFESTO FOR HARINGEY

# HOPE



Green Party

# OUR PRIORITIES

## BETTER QUALITY HOUSING

- Inspect and fine more landlords to improve housing quality
- Freeze service charges for council tenants and leaseholders for at least two years
- Speed up council housing repairs and work with, not against, staff teams
- Buy back council homes to increase the supply of social housing

## POWER BACK IN YOUR HANDS

- Stop the sell-off of council assets by building community ownership, and stop charging local community groups market rents
- Provide real transparency over council spending and a meaningful say in decisions
- Replace the Landlord forum with a Renters' forum
- Push for a Tottenham Endowment Fund so the local area benefits from Tottenham Hotspur Stadium

## GREAT PUBLIC SPACES, PROTECT NATURE

- Build a safe, joined-up cycle network and reduce the waiting list for bike hangars
- Tackle fly-tipping, putting pressure on contractors' response rates
- Protect Finsbury Park, with a better deal for residents that puts culture before corporations

## A COUNCIL THAT CARES

- End the rising use of bailiffs to collect council tax debt
- Divest council pensions from companies complicit in Israel's genocide
- End the use of rip-off consultants and bring skills in-house
- Empower and mobilise residents to challenge central government austerity and fight for rent controls, a wealth tax and national care service

# HARINGEY COUNCIL IS IN CRISIS

# WE CAN DO BETTER

Up and down the country, the local councils that we rely on for our bin collections, our social care and our schools are struggling.

A Labour Government that promised change is yet to deliver it. Fourteen years of Conservative and Liberal Democrat austerity have taken their toll, not just on public services, but on how we live our lives. Haringey has not escaped the stark inequality this policy has driven. We have some of the most deprived neighbourhoods, not just in London, but in the country. National data shows that healthy life expectancy - the number of years we can expect to live in good health - is now declining in Haringey more than any other part of England.

And yet, we are, as a borough, rich. Rich in creativity and culture, from the warehouse community in Harringay to the Bernie Grant Arts Centre in Tottenham. Rich in a history of rebellion, from the Broadwater Farm uprising to working-class resistance to police brutality. And we are a borough rich in assets, from Finsbury Park and Tottenham Hotspur Stadium to beloved institutions like Rowans and Ally Pally, from bustling high streets to flagship new housing developments.

Haringey is a place where fortunes can be - and are - made. But who by, and who

Credit: Winston Tjia



for? As landlords raise rents, damp and mould fester. As procurement contracts are signed - from waste management to care homes - providers cash-in while communities scramble to find the benefits and pick up the pieces. While the council's debts have grown, over £30 million of assets have been sold off. The very spaces that could be the site of future community wealth are instead lost, from public hands to private gain.

We know residents are frustrated, but they are also ready to mobilise - through community groups, through trade unions, and alongside other councils, to make Haringey's voice heard to central government. Residents are also ready to be empowered - to stand up and shape Haringey's future - if only given the chance.

Fly-tipping, box-ticking consultation exercises and long-ignored anti-social behaviour are all, at heart, consequences of a breakdown of care and cohesion. They are driven by the economics of extraction, and by politicians that take votes for granted. Green Councillors have to work hard to get elected, and will work hard in power. We will work together with you to restore pride and trust in communities, challenge the culture of apathy and distrust, and put power back in your hands.

The Green Party wants to make hope normal again. But hope is not something we wait for, nor something that washes over us. Hope is all the things we can get done, together. This manifesto is just the start.

- OUR COMMITMENTS  
TO HARINGEY RESIDENTS**
  1. We'll push for better quality housing, and lower bills
  2. We'll deliver real democracy to put power back in people's hands
  3. We'll end bad deals, make great public spaces and protect nature
  4. We'll be a borough that cares

# OUR NEW APPROACH TO RUNNING THE COUNCIL

Guiding our commitments will be an approach that challenges how the council operates, and how it will work together with residents.

Credit: Jonathan McKinley

## A COUNCIL FOR US, BY US

### Fight to end the local government funding crisis

The council claims to be “turning the page” on austerity, but it survives only through payday loans from the government. We will hold an emergency summit with other willing councils to build a national challenge to cuts, and make the unmet needs of Haringey residents heard in Westminster. We will work to mobilise and build an alliance with council staff, trade unions, tenants, community organisations and residents to make the case to the government for the long-term solutions it has so far ignored: a wealth tax, rent controls, and a national care service.

### Stop the sell-off and build community ownership

We will establish a Popular Assets Commission - with representatives from trade unions, renters unions, residents groups, the cooperative economy and community and voluntary sector organizations - to map and build community ownership of housing and assets across Haringey. By owning assets and running services together with residents - and by renegotiating (or ending) bad deals with companies, from Tottenham Hotspur Stadium to Finsbury Park - we will stem the tide of profit extraction and start to give power and resources back to the community.

### Maximum transparency and resident engagement

Just 169 people responded to this year's council budget consultation, less than 0.0007% of residents. We will deliver a major programme of public engagement across the borough, coinciding with the establishment of the Popular Assets Commission, to bring residents into decisions about how to handle the current crisis and how every community will play its role. We will make council data on all spending and contracts properly accessible to residents, allowing for open scrutiny and debate.



Credit: Marc Jenner

# WE'LL PUSH FOR BETTER HOUSING & LOWER BILLS

One of the most frequent concerns we are hearing from Haringey residents on the doorstep is the cost of living. Another is the need for a secure, comfortable, accessible home, one of the basic building blocks of a healthy, thriving life - something everyone should have.

While campaigning at national level for changes to the law to allow us to do more in this area - for example, for rent controls - we will drive up the quality of Haringey's housing, in both the social and private rented sectors. In particular, we will improve energy efficiency in Haringey's homes - a triple win policy that will generate warmer homes and lower bills, and also help with tackling climate change.

Credit: Gabriel J Diaz

# IMPROVE HOUSING QUALITY

## A tough landlord licensing regime

Haringey rarely takes action against landlords who let out damaged, dangerous housing. In March, Haringey had only a single entry on the GLA Rogue Landlords and Agents Checker, while Camden had over 60. By October 2025, Haringey had issued, in total, only 78 Notices of Civil Penalty under its current landlord licensing schemes. We will bring in a tougher licensing regime, expanding to include all privately rented properties in Haringey, and stricter requirements for size and housing quality. We will raise the number and quality of inspections, with landlords covering the cost through license fees, with the highest fees for the largest HMOs. Landlords who breach license terms will be subject to fines or Rent Repayment Orders, putting money back in residents' pockets.

## Improve the housing repair system

In 2024/25 the housing ombudsman provided Haringey with a maladministration rate of 95% for complaints relating

to property condition, of which over half related to leaks, damp and mould. Haringey's 2024/25 independent tenant satisfaction survey showed that just under half of tenants were satisfied with the repairs service over the last 12 months. We will improve the service by creating a public repair dashboard showing response times and progress of repairs in real time, improve email responsiveness, enforce better standards with contractors, and work with repairs teams (who have been forced to go on strike to reform the service).

## Bring all Haringey council homes to decent standard

In 2025, 20% of Haringey's council housing stock failed to meet the Decent Homes Standard, compared with an average of 11% in other London boroughs. We will ensure that Haringey's commitment to bring 100% of them up to standard by 2028 is fulfilled.



Credit: Matt Seywell

# BRING DOWN BILLS AND MAKE HOMES WARMER

## Upgrade the energy efficiency of homes

Insulation, double glazing, efficient heating systems and solar panels have the triple benefit of warmer homes, lower bills and fewer climate-changing carbon emissions. Yet Haringey has been slow to embrace this agenda - in February 2026 not a single home in the first phase of the retrofit programme for council homes had been completed. We will speed up delivery, and look to add further improvements to homes. We will use landlord licensing to require energy efficiency upgrades when new national regulation (currently under consultation) is passed, and support schemes to help upgrade community and owner-occupied homes.



Credit: Matt Saywell

## Freeze service charges

Service charges for Haringey's council tenants in 2025/26 are £20-40 a month higher than those in neighbouring London boroughs, after steep increases over the last few years. Charges for leaseholders have also increased and appear significantly higher than in other boroughs. We will freeze service charges for both council tenants and leaseholders for the next two years, review the contracts with service providers to find better value, and provide more transparency to residents on leasehold service charges.

# INCREASE HOUSING STOCK AND PROTECT RESIDENTS

We will build on Haringey's successful council house building programme, supplementing where possible by buying back council homes and maximising the inclusion of social homes in new-build private developments. We will maximise use of grant funding, such as the GLA's London Social and Affordable Homes Programme 2026-2036. We will aim to increase the proportion of family-sized homes, to alleviate overcrowding, and to increase the proportion of accessible housing.

We will use every available power to bring empty homes back into use, and will support community-led housing projects and housing co-ops.

## Bring an end to the use of bailiffs

In 2024/25 almost 9000 Haringey residents were referred to bailiffs by Haringey Council for unpaid council taxes. We will back the ACORN union campaign and bring an end to the use of bailiffs to collect council tax debt.

## Rough sleeping and homelessness

We will consult with Haringey's grassroots homelessness organisations, and take a compassionate, practical and comprehensive approach to homelessness, which includes providing supported housing, and also safe accommodation for women who have experienced domestic abuse.



Credit: Gabriel J Diaz

# WE'LL PUT POWER BACK INTO PEOPLE'S HANDS

All too often on the doorstep we hear that the council isn't listening to its residents. We will do things differently. We don't just want to hear residents' views; we want to give residents power – not just because it's right that the people that use council services have a say, but also because we believe that the power to drive change lies in our communities.

And we know that's what residents want too – in a 2024 survey of residents, less than half said they feel able to influence decisions made by the council and 56% said they want to get more involved in those decisions.

## Community ownership through a Popular Assets Commission

We will run a large-scale programme of public engagement and mobilisation to engage residents, working with local groups and organisations to come up with a plan together. Together we will resist austerity, improve council services and establish a Popular Assets Commission with representatives from groups across the borough, to map and build common ownership of assets across Haringey.

# PROPER CONSULTATION AND RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT

## A meaningful say for residents

We will overhaul our consultation processes to give residents a real, meaningful say in council decisions, helping to make sure that council projects are implemented in a way that actually meets residents' needs. We will go to residents early in project development, genuinely take on their input and continue working with them throughout so that it's a collective effort and not a tick box exercise.

## Build trust with communities

The council itself acknowledges that some residents don't engage due to past experiences with the council or a lack of trust. We will work hard to build that trust and will remove barriers to participation so that having a say is for everyone, not just those who have time and resources to participate. We'll build deeper connections with residents, exploring approaches like Citizens Assemblies to work through the most difficult issues.

## Pilot a participatory budgeting project

When a developer builds a new project, they have to pay the Community Infrastructure Levy to the council to support community needs in the area. At the moment, people can tell the council

their priorities for how to spend this money online, but the council has the ultimate say on what to fund. We would pilot a participatory budgeting approach, opening up the process and handing that power over to local people. Local people would collectively come up with ideas for what they want to see in their area and then they'd come together to vote on which proposals receive the money, because we believe that communities know best what the place they live in needs.

## Establish a Haringey renters' forum

The council currently has a Landlord Forum, but no Renters' Forum. We would establish a Renters' Forum so that we can understand the issues that private renters face and take action together, because living in the private rented sector shouldn't mean that you don't have a say over your living conditions.

## Support credit unions and co-ops

We will look to other ways to build resident economic and social power in Haringey too. We will support residents to organise, own and govern organisations that benefit them, like credit unions and workers cooperatives – so that residents can rely on each other rather than private companies.

# WE'LL MAKE GREAT PUBLIC SPACES, PROTECT NATURE & STOP THE SELL-OFF



Credit: Ash Ahmed

## REBUILDING COMMUNITY

### Make great public spaces

Places to meet up and spend time together, creating doing and being - and safe, quiet ways to travel between them - are the physical fabric of community, so we can be connected rather than isolated, so that all of us of all ages and backgrounds can meet each other, and so we can build community resilience to whatever shocks the world may throw at us.

### Build a safe, connected cycle network and encourage active travel

Fewer than half of Haringey's households own a car. However, traffic on the borough's main roads remains a serious problem. Promoting active travel will reduce air pollution and improve residents' health.

We will deliver the Haringey Walking and Cycling Action Plan in full, re-allocating road space to make streets safer, reduce pollution and enable healthier living. Build a safe, joined-up cycle network, including a north-south route through the borough.

We will reduce the waiting list for bike hangars, and expand traffic-reducing schemes, including the school streets programme. Expansion of traffic-reducing schemes will be subject to genuine consultation with and support from residents, with limited exemptions for individual circumstances with the most need to drive and least able to get around in other ways.

We will increase accessibility through wider pavements kept in better repair,

more pedestrian and cycling crossings, improved side street and major junctions for safety, accessible bike hangars, enforcing the use of e-bike parking spaces so that bikes don't block pavements, and more blue badge parking in low-accessibility areas.

### Support community spaces for people not profit

Down Lane Park Community Centre is due to be replaced, and the leaseholders of Chestnuts Community Centre are ending their involvement at the end of 2026.

In 2025, Haringey adopted a new policy, by which organisations will by default be charged market rent for using community spaces. We will scrap this policy and aim to keep community centres open, affordable and in council or community ownership, and support the voluntary sector to access spaces rather than treating them as commercial properties.

### Libraries, leisure centres and library of things

We'll support libraries and leisure centres, and also support the creation of a 'library of things' on the east side of Haringey.

# CLEANER STREETS, PROTECTED PARKS AND NATURE

Clean streets make us feel that our local areas are valued and cared for. A green, tree-shaded environment is cool, calming and healthy, and all of us (but especially our children) need our parks and green spaces to relax outdoors.

Moreover, for all our futures, we need to protect nature, to protect the living systems we all rely on - for example, insect and bird populations in the UK have fallen dramatically in recent years, and extremes of heat and rainfall are playing havoc with habitats. We will work to protect and improve Haringey's green spaces, wetlands and nature corridors.

Credit: Charlotte Pink

# PROTECTING OUR FUTURES

## Tackling fly-tipping

There were around 50 fly-tipping incidents a day in Haringey last year. Green councillors have to work hard to get elected, and we will work hard to listen to residents.

We will put pressure on contractors' response rates, and we will organise the community to act - from litter-picks to ensuring more incidents are reported through the Love Clean Streets app.

## Parks for people

We will strictly limit major commercial events in Finsbury Park while carrying out a full policy overhaul to enforce tighter environmental standards, an increased share of revenue and financial transparency.

We will reclaim the park for the community, prioritizing culture over corporations, and advocating for national statutory protection of green spaces.

## Protect Haringey's 28,500 mature trees

To reduce the number of mature trees felled in Haringey, we will demand more rigorous evidence from insurance assessors by signing up to the Joint Mitigation Protocol, and require developers to protect mature trees and green infrastructure.

We will also ensure tree planting happens equitably across the whole borough.

## Pesticide-free borough

We'll aim to become a pesticide-free borough, phasing out the council's use of pesticides like glyphosate, as a third of London councils have already begun to do.

## Urban food-growing

In addition to our existing allotments, we will support a borough-wide community food growing network.



Credit: Ruben Teixeira

# WE WILL END BAD DEALS

Often contracts with large companies may not be the best deal for Haringey residents - how can they be, when the financial arrangements inevitably include sizable profit margins for investors?

Instead of these, we will aim for policies that circulate wealth locally instead of flowing it out of the borough, and create local jobs.

# KEEP WEALTH LOCAL

## Review council contracts

Haringey has contracts worth a total of almost £2 billion. One example that highlights the scale of the financial opportunity here is the contract with Veolia for waste management. Originally signed in 2011, it is one of Haringey's largest. A year ago, Haringey gave Veolia a two-year extension to the contract, despite Haringey's household recycling rate having dropped from 37% in 2014/15 to 28% in 2024/25. In March this year a new contract was agreed, 20% more than Haringey's own estimate for the cost of taking the service in-house.

We will review all council contracts, looking at financial, social and environmental value, and prioritise procurement from local co-ops, businesses or social enterprises, or taking in-house, where this provides better outcomes for residents.

## Reduce use of consultants

In the year to September 2025, Haringey's consultancy bill was almost £7 million for 45 full-time equivalent consultants, which is over £150,000 per full-time-equivalent consultant. We will challenge and reduce spending on costly external consultants, bringing more skills and capacity in-house.

## Tottenham Endowment Fund

Residents of Northumberland Park describe little benefit from the presence of the Tottenham Hotspur stadium. We will push Tottenham Hotspur to establish a Tottenham Endowment Fund - donating a small proportion of revenue to provide community-controlled resources. For example, just 0.1% of the club's revenue in 2024 would have provided a fund of £500,000 per year.



# A BOROUGH THAT CARES

## Make neighbourhoods safer

We believe that everyone deserves to live in a place where they feel safe and comfortable. Crime, anti-social behaviour and visible and unsafe drug use are concerns of residents in Haringey, and hard-working Green councillors will take a committed and compassionate approach to tackling neighbourhood safety issues.

We will also recognise there is also a deeper problem here. This behaviour, which is so disruptive to residents' lives, is downstream from the grinding inequality in our borough. An unlocked stairwell should not be the only place a homeless or desperate or unwell or addicted person can be warm and dry. We need secure housing for all, we need safer consumption rooms, and we need - at the local and national levels - an approach to drugs and homelessness which provides people with support to solve these issues at source, in the long-term. We will focus on prevention, and public-health led approaches to reducing crime.

The Baroness Casey Review concluded that the Met police is institutionally racist, misogynistic and homophobic, with deep-rooted discrimination impacting both officers and the public. People in Haringey

Credit: Matt Buck

# ADULT SOCIAL CARE FOR PEOPLE NOT FOR PROFIT

know this only too well - black people in the borough are 3.5 times more likely to be stopped and searched by the police than white people, and around 5 times more likely to be stopped on suspicion of carrying a weapon - while neurodivergent and autistic people have suffered too. We will challenge the Met's over-policing practices, including stop-and-search, racial profiling, use of facial recognition technology, and restrictive policing at protests.

People using care services feel the years of austerity that have degraded our public services. Last year the regulator rated Haringey's adult social care service as 'requires improvement', with 7 out of 9 areas reviewed needing to change. People face long wait times for needs assessments, and then receive poor quality care from profit-seeking agencies, which pay only lip-service to the care plan for each person. There are also frequent changes of staff, due to recruitment problems. Unsurprisingly, people told the regulator that they do not feel heard by the council.

## A voice for service users and carers

Local groups are already doing their best to influence the council on care. We will work with them and co-produce to give service users and carers a real voice in our care policies. We will use outcomes-based

commissioning, so that individuals can ask for what they really want from care workers, rather than tasks being defined by care agencies.

## Support non-profit providers of care

We will seek to reduce reliance on private companies, and support non-profit providers of care to grow, through fostering coops and social enterprises, and providing support and training for self-employed individuals who seek to become care providers. And we will join up with other willing councils, increasing our bargaining power with private providers, to work to improve pay, conditions and training of care workers.



Credit: Alan Stanton

Support children and young people

A good start in life is every child’s right. Children need a secure home, and the chance to play, learn and have fun, so that they can thrive. Adolescents need spaces to meet and connect outside of their homes. And all young people need to feel listened to.

Many of the measures we will take - for example to improve the quality of housing, to make our streets safer, to keep our community centres affordable and to make our parks more available in summer, will support children and young people. We will ensure that the high standards in Haringey’s schools, special needs and children’s services are maintained.

We will listen to what children and young people want, by including them in our participatory democratic initiatives, and by continuing Haringey Youth Council, so that their voices are heard and they can contribute meaningfully to community decisions.

A welcoming borough for all

Nobody uproots themselves on a whim. People migrate to the UK, often going through great hardship, because they cannot stay in their home countries. Perhaps they have escaped a war, or barely-imaginable persecution - or perhaps they are joining families or loved ones who are already here. Yet when they arrive, people find a confusing limbo-land of further hardship.

We will work with migrant communities and organisations to support migrant residents to settle and thrive. We will continue our commitment to being a Welcoming Borough, and will also apply for Borough of Sanctuary status. We

will remove barriers to access to public services to those in the immigration and asylum system, as much as is legally possible, delivering services on the basis of dignity, equality and needs-first, and we will aim to avoid contracts with companies that benefit from ‘hostile environment’ policies.

Ethical council

We will take a stand on justice locally, nationally and internationally. We will stop the council banking with Barclays, which funds Israel’s genocide in Gaza and is one of the world’s largest funders of fossil fuels, contributing to the climate and nature crises.

Research by the Palestine Solidarity Campaign shows that Haringey’s pension scheme has investments in BAE systems, Palantir, Barclays, and other companies complicit in Israel’s violations of international law. Our existing councillors have already demanded that the Labour council divests its pension fund from these companies. We will ensure that the council fully divests from them, and we will divest from oil and gas too.

We will oppose contracts with Palantir across all services, working with NHS partners and others to protect residents’ privacy, and promoting efforts to build local skills and capacity to use data for good.

STAY IN TOUCH

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